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Subject: Gasoline for Farm Retail Deliveries

Field Distribution: War Board members, Extension Editors, BAE analysts, FDA Marketing Reports Chiefs, SCS, FSA, FCA Regional Information Chiefs

Suggested use: Background information; press and radio releases.

In many of the areas of the country -- particularly in those adjacent to cities and towns -- a considerable number of farmers make a general practice of selling products direct to the consumer, usually making the delivery to the consumer's doorstep. Recent reports from the field have indicated a need for clarification of gasoline rationing regulations as they affect such deliveries. This information is outlined below:

Restricted part of gasoline shortage area (includes the six New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and the eight eastern counties of West Virginia):

Under the regulations of Rationing Order No. 5, Supplemental rations may be obtained by persons requiring mileage in connection with their occupations. The mileage issued for most occupational purposes, including the retail delivery of farm products, may not exceed 300 miles per month in this area. Farmers, however, may obtain Supplemental rations in excess of 300 miles per month for most purposes connected with the operation of a farm, including: transportation of farm workers; delivery of products to a wholesale or retail establishment, a public market, a shipping point, or another farm; and travel to obtain necessary farm supplies. If a farmer required mileage both for retail delivery of his products and for other purposes connected with the operation of the farm, he might conceivably obtain 300 miles per month for retail delivery, plus all mileage needed for essential farming purposes.

Along with most other passenger-car operators, the farmer is entitled to an "A" ration providing 90 miles of driving per month. The use of this mileage for retail delivery of farm products is permissible under the current prohibition against nonessential driving in the restricted part of the gasoline shortage area.

Non-restricted part of the gasoline shortage area (includes North and South Carolina, Georgia, and all but the extreme western part of Florida):

The statement made above concerning the restricted part of the gasoline shortage area applies to the remainder of the shortage area, with the exception that the maximum mileage allowed for retail delivery is 360, rather than 300, miles per month. Through use of the 90 miles per month provided by

his "A" ration, a farmer in this area might have a total of 450 miles a month which can be used for direct consumer deliveries.

Outside the gasoline shortage area:

Motorists outside the shortage area are issued "A" rations providing 240 miles per month. 150 of the 240 are assumed to be available for occupational purposes. Accordingly, a supplemental ration is not issued unless a need for more than 150 miles per month of occupational driving is demonstrated. A recent amendment to the Gasoline Rationing Regulations permits issuance of up to 720 miles per month to drivers outside the gasoline shortage area for travel in the course of their occupations. This means that farmers in this area may obtain up to 720 miles per month for retail delivery of their products, and may also obtain mileage needed for purposes necessary to the operation of their farms.

As is true in the gasoline shortage area, motorists outside of that area are provided with 90 miles of non-occupational driving per month on their "A" ration. This mileage may be used for retail delivery of farm products or for any other purposes that the ration holder chooses.